First Sunday of Advent
December 3rd, 2006

Faith Sharing
Readings and Questions for
Week of December 10th, 2006

Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

Theme: John the Baptist announces the ministry of Jesus.

Question for Adults: How can we prepare the way of the Lord?

Question for Children: Can you share the story of your Baptism?

Monday, December 4th, 2006
Is 2:1-5 Mt 8:5-11
8:00 a.m. Daily Liturgy
Intention: Blessing in Advent Season
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Office Hours
7:00 p.m. - Lay Ministry Class

Tuesday, December 5th, 2006
Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24
8:00 a.m. Daily Liturgy
Intention: Repose of Fr. Bill Pauly, S.J.
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Office Hours
7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts

Wednesday, December 6th, 2006
Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Office Hours
9: 00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Food Pantry
No Daily Liturgy
6:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Meal
7:00 p.m. - Faith Formation Classes

Thursday, December 7th, 2006
Memorial of Saint Ambrose, bishop and doctor of the Church
Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27
No Daily Liturgy
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Office Hours
5:30 p.m. Mass – National Night of Prayer
Ministry Schedule:
Bread Baker: *Betsy Van Asma*
Altar Servers: *Matthew & Christopher Van Asma, Katie & David Strand*
Blood: *Betsy Van Asma, Stephanie Strand, Diane Clarke, Jean Schubauer*
Body: *Ken Van Asma*
Lector: *Jay Hammerquist & Diane Clarke*
Sacristan: *Ken & Kathy Van Asma*
Usher: *Phillip Clarke & Tom Van Asma*

Friday, December 8th, 2006
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38
8:00 a.m. - Daily Liturgy
Intention: For the parish community
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Office Hours

Saturday, December 9th, 2006
Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
No Morning Mass
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Food Pantry
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Share Distribution
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Reconciliation
Sunday Readings
Second Sunday of Advent
Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6
5:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Eucharist
Intention: Health of Peggy Volin
Ministry Schedule:
Bread Baker: *Jan Schurman*
Altar Servers: *Bethany, Hannah & Elijah Ehresmann*
Blood: *Carol Conway, Greg & Nancy Sass, Jan Schurman*
Body: *Walt Wilson*
Lector: *Greg & Matthew Sass*
Sacristan: *Erik & Estela Haakedahl*
Usher: *Sue & Steve Colgan*
Choir: *Folk Group*

Sunday, December 10th, 2006
Second Sunday of Advent
Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6
8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Eucharist
Intention: For the OLBH Parish Community
Ministry Schedule:
Altar Servers: *Brett Beyer, Shannon Wilson, Kerry Wilson*
Blood: *Dean & Mary Antonsen, Kathy Amiotte, Beth Anne Ferley*
Body: *Walt Wilson*
Lector: *Reeny & Judy Wilson*
Sacristan: *Frank & Donna Boner*
Usher: *Anita Tidemann & Tom Van Asma*
Choir: *Regina's Minstrels*

8:30 a.m. - RCIA Class in library

9:15 a.m. Faith Formation Class

9:15 a.m. - Coffee & Rolls

10:30 a.m. Liturgy of Eucharist
Intention: Repose of Mary Smith
Ministry Schedule:
Altar Servers: Jacqui Osnes, Austin & Kaleah Evans
Blood: Dani Dosch, Denise McCormick, Joni Osnes, Sharon Long
Body: Walt Wilson
Lector: Mary & Brad Blauvelt
Sacristan: The Blauvelt Family
Usher: The Weaver Family
Choir: Family Choir

7:00 p.m. – Adoration with Benediction

Prayer Corner: *Names will remain on the list for one month. Please contact the office for continued prayers.*
Improved Health – Tabatha Pourier, Frieda Helm, & Pat Schable

Repose – Mary Smith (Fr. Ray Deisch's niece)

STEWARDSHIP
November 25th & 26th

Loose	$1,931.68
Envelopes	$1,487.00
Student	$73.93
Stained Glass	$20.00
Building	$62.00
Total	$3,584.61

Renovation Pledges
May 1st, 2005 to April 30th, 2007
Total Pledged - $141,112.01
Total received - $104,729.98

Sparks From Mark

Introduction to the Lectionary's Proclamation of the Gospel according to Luke

His Gospel is such a treasure trove of themes that it has invited numerous nicknames, such as "The Gospel of Joy," "The Gospel of the Holy Spirit…of Prayer…of the Poor," among others. Other obvious themes include warnings against wealth; frequent meals with sinners; the inclusion of women; and concern for tax collectors, lepers, and outcasts. Luke's portrait of Jesus is perhaps the most beloved and easily approachable of all the Gospels: Luke's Jesus is the embodiment of divine compassion. Indeed, Luke's portrayal of Jesus is at the heart of his proclamation of the Good News.

Luke advances his understanding of Jesus in two noteworthy ways. One way is in the titles he uses of Jesus. While Luke follows other Gospel writers in calling Jesus "Son of God," "Son of Man," and "Messiah," Luke is distinctive among the Synoptic Gospels in calling Jesus the "Savior" (2:11). Jesus' work as Savior is anticipated in many healing stories in which one is "saved" (7:50/Sunday 11C; 8:36, 48, 50; 17:19/Sunday 28C; 18-42). Discussion about Jesus as Savior appropriately dominates the crucifixion (23:35, 37, 39). Another favorite title Luke uses of Jesus is "Lord." In the New Testament "Lord" is typically a post-Easter title; its occurrence throughout the Gospel, especially its use by the narrator, serves to present the entire Gospel as an Easter proclamation of faith in Jesus.

A second distinctive feature of Luke's portrayal of Jesus is his presentation of Jesus as compassionate and merciful. Early in the Gospel the Canticle of Mary (the Magnificat) indicates that God is acting now because "he has remembered his promise of mercy to Abraham and his descendants for ever" (1:54-55). As the Canticle of Zechariah makes clear, the "tender mercy" of God "promised through the holy prophets of old" and sworn "to our father Abraham" is a promise of "redemption" and a "horn of salvation" (1:68-79). For Luke "mercy" means "salvation." Jesus, born "within the house of David," is the fulfillment of that ancient promise.[1]

Breakfast by the Knights of Columbus! The Our Lady of the Black Hills Knights of Columbus will have a pancake breakfast and holiday bake sale on December 10th from 8 am to 12 Noon. Donations will be accepted for the breakfast of coffee, juice, pancakes, sausage and fruit. Fresh baked cookies, etc, will be available for purchase. Come join the Knights for food and good company!

[1] *Living Liturgy 2007*, Liturgical Press, Saint Johns Abby, Collegeville, Minnesota, introduction p. ix-x

Advent Retreat

In the Spirit of Taize
Saturday, December 9th
8:30 a.m. registration
Retreat from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Lunch provided
Cost of $5.00
Located at Our Lady of the Black Hills
For more information, please contact Fr. Mark or Lorraine Ptacek at 787-5168 or olbh@olbh.org

CRS Fair Trade Sale Last year as part of the Advent season preparing our hearts for the gift of Christ at Christmas, we sponsored a Catholic Relief Service, project called a Work of Human Hands. We realize that giving gifts is an important ritual in our lives in particular at Christmas. With Work of Human Hands we have the opportunity to multiply our generosity at Christmas. The Work of Human Hands project helps the disadvantaged artisans and farmers, in impoverished countries, who create tasty and beautiful hand crafted products to receive extra income for their families and an investment in their communities. On the weekends of December 9th & 10th and then again December 16th & 17th you have an opportunity to purchase in the Work of Human Hands project. Some items are chocolate, coffee, gift baskets and Christmas items.

National Night of Prayer for Life and America

Our Lady of the Black Hills Parish is hosting the seventeenth annual National Night of Prayer for Life and America on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, December 7th, 2006. This is an evening of prayer, adoration, and song in thanksgiving for life and atonement for abortion. The Pro-Life Commission of the Diocese of Rapid City sponsors the event Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Cupich and will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by three hours of Adoration, which includes 20 decades of the Rosary. The evening concludes with Benediction at 9:45 p.m. Please feel welcome to come to any portion of this special event.

The Giving Tree The Giving Tree is now up with tags, in the Gathering Area. Please take a tag and consider this part of your Christmas giving. All gifts should be returned no later then Sunday, December 10th with tags attached but **unwrapped.** All gifts stay in the Piedmont, Black Hawk area. If you know of someone in our area who is in need of Christmas giving, please call Judy at 716-4647 or Dorothy at 787-4509.

We are looking for a video!
The Faith Formation office is looking for the video, "Celebrating Reconciliation with Families". It may have been borrowed, if so, would you please return it to the office. Thank you!
-Teresa Thompson

SHARE Grocery Co-op Open to everyone without exception! SHARE is about stewardship, the sharing of ones gifts through volunteerism and blessing others with the gifts that Christ gave them. And in honor and encouragement of this, they receive a discount on groceries. Those who give shall receive. And in the receiving of the financial benefit through a discount on groceries, you are in reality once again giving, because part of the purchase of groceries is rebated back to the host organization, Our Lady of the Black Hills, thus blessing their ministries. Many times that rebate is used to help put food on the tables for families in need. SHARE is truly an endless circle of the sharing Order your groceries through the host site here at Our Lady of the Black Hills. It helps you, it helps the church, and it helps the community. Consider buying a package for yourself and one to donate, we'll find the family for you. Participation in SHARE is an investment in the Mission and Ministry of the church. You can place your order on Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and Saturday December 16th, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Diocesan News:

PREPARING THE STABLE: AN ADVENT REFLECTION Come. Slow down and be part of an afternoon Advent reflection time. What part of you is expectant (like Mary) about Christmas? Do you have an inner Herod that doesn't want the competition of a newborn King? But most important, what is your stable like…the place in which the Christ child will be born? Come and join this afternoon time of preparation.
WHERE: *St. Therese Church, Rapid City*
WHEN: *December 10 (Sunday) 1-4 PM*
WHO: *All adults/teens on the journey of Faith*
PRESENTER: *Ron Oney of Catholic Social Services*

Please give CSS a call at 348-6086 if you want to come. There is no charge. We want to know how many will attend to have adequate materials.

Kateri Circle Ladies of St. Isaac Jogues
Welcome you to join them in a fun filled evening on December 11, 2006
What: Potluck & Bunco
Where: St. Isaac Jogues Coffee Room
Time: 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm
$5.00 Gift to Play
The Bunco Dice game is very easy to play. No previous experience required. The ability to have a lot of fun, laughs, and a healthy desire to socialize is a must!!

Reminder: Kateri Circle will also have a Craft & Bake Sale on Sunday December 10, 2006 after both masses (9:00/11:00)

Annual Diocesan Appeal
Please prayerfully consider participating in this year's appeal by placing your completed pledge form in the collection basket during any Mass or by mailing it in the pre-addressed pledge envelope. Envelopes are located in the gathering area.

Faithful Citizenship I would like in particular to urge scientific structures that draw their inspiration and organization from the Catholic Church to increase this type of research and to establish the closest possible contact with one another and with those who seek to relieve human suffering in the proper ways. May I also point out, in the face of the frequently unjust accusations of insensitivity addressed to the Church, her constant support for research dedicated to the cure of diseases and to the good of humanity throughout her 2,000-year-old history.

Address to Pontifical Academy for Life symposium on "Stem Cells: What Future for Therapy?"
Benedict XVI, September 16, 2006. http://www.zenit.org/english/

The Diocesan Pro-Life Commission requests prayers for all unborn babies in danger of abortion. A sample prayer entitled **Spiritual Adoption Prayer** is as follows: "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, with love for you I ask your intercession to protect the life of unborn children. May they all come to birth healthy and be a source of joy to their parents. For those in danger because of abortion, I adopt them as my own and pray for them and their mothers."
(From the Diocesan Pro-Life Commission Faithful Citizenship Committee)

For the Ride Home
First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2006

Scripture

- The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise. I will raise up for David a just shoot; …he shall do what is right and just in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14,5)
- Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day. (Psalm 25:4,5)
- May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12)
- Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from … the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap.. (Luke 21:34)

Reflection

- Why does Jesus enter history? What is the purpose?
- How does Jesus coming incarnate change your life?

The word of God, as incarnated in Jesus, needs to take on real flesh in our own bodies and lives and be the body of Christ on earth. Like Jesus, our lives must be our message and our lives must speak of and give real flesh to peace, love, holiness, and fidelity. When people look at our lives, what they see there must enable them to trust and give themselves over in trust. The word needs to continue to have flesh in our lives. This is our real mission.[2]

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[2] Rolheiser, Ronald, *Secularity and the Gospel, Being Missionaries to Our Children*, Crossroads: New York, 2006, p. 74.